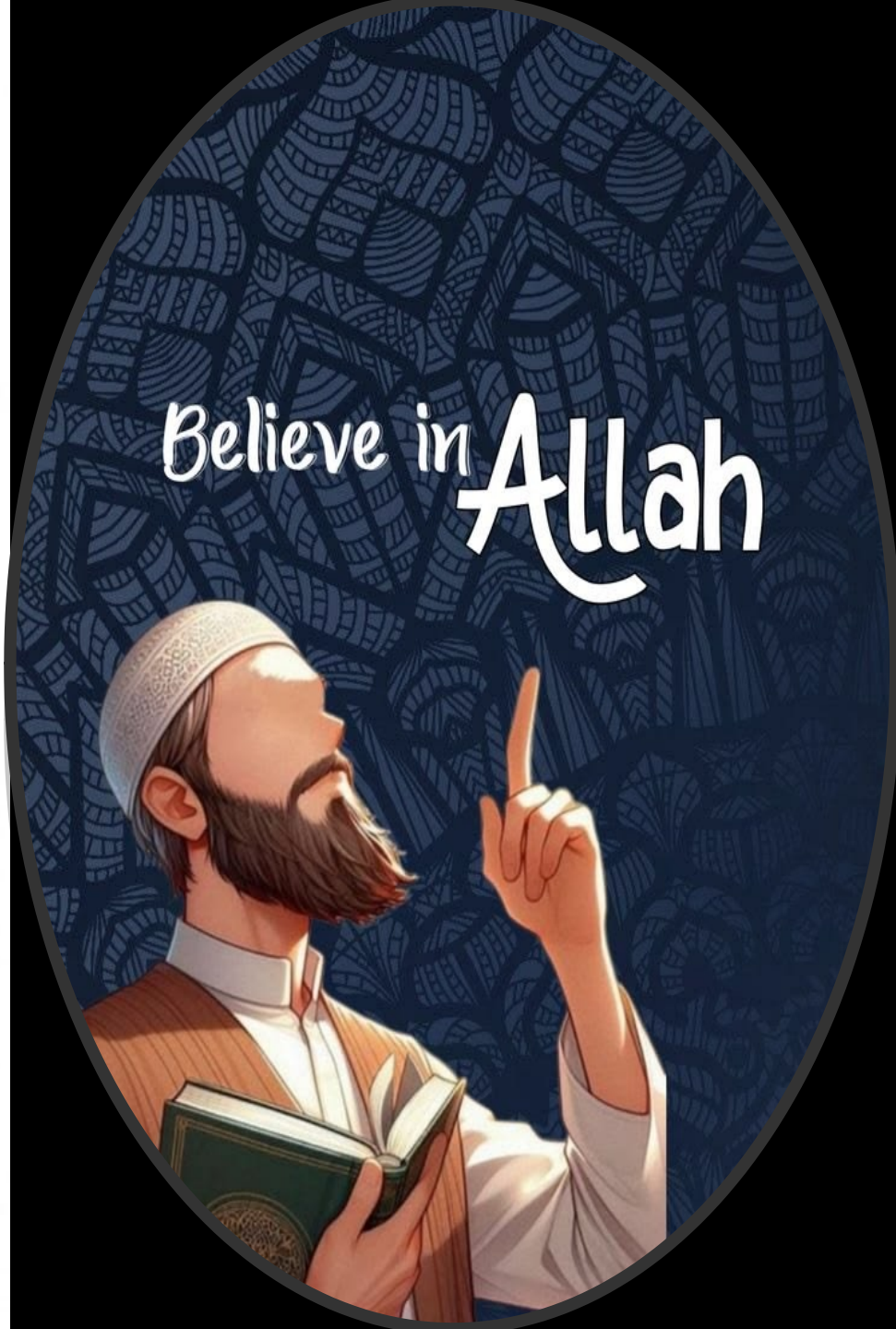
SURAH OF AL-IKHLAS



THE RESEARCH:
SURAH OF
AL-IKHLAS

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THE REFERENCES

1) https://quran.com/al-ikhlas/info

2) https://quran.com/al-ikhlas

BACK

THE BACKGROUND 1

Adapted from Tafsir Ibn Ashur

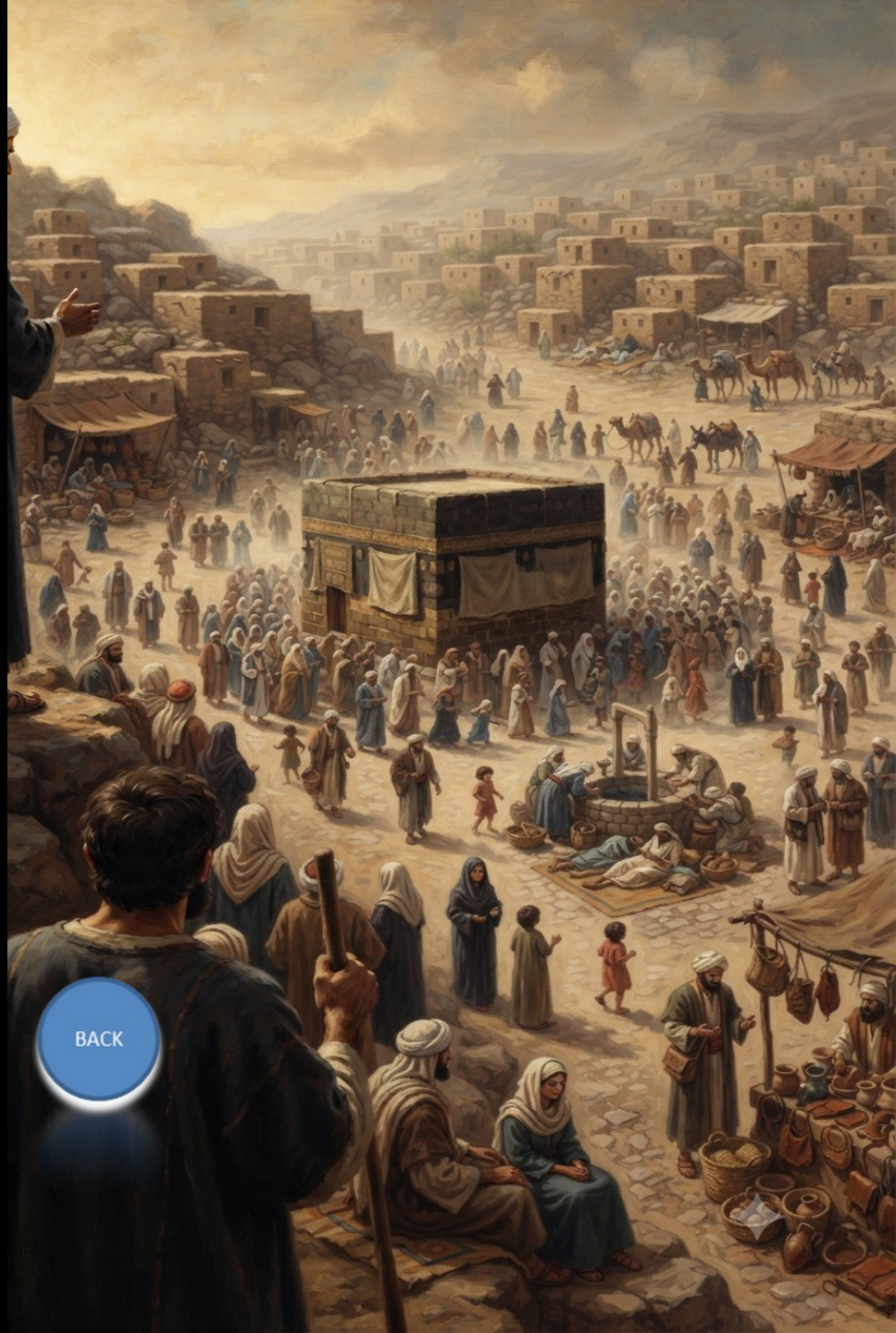
Themes and purpose:

This Meccan surah is the definitive statement of Islamic Monotheism. Its purpose is to describe Allah's nature, asserting His absolute Oneness, His status as the Eternal Refuge, His independence from parentage, and His unparalleled nature, thereby purifying belief from all forms of shirk.

BACK

Context of Revelation:

- Era: Makkan according to the majority, as it establishes the core principle of Monotheism central to the early message.
- Context: The surah was revealed when the Quraysh asked the Prophet (ﷺ) to "describe the lineage" of his Lord. It also serves as a general answer to similar questions posed by Jewish scholars and other groups, though the correct time of revelation places the initial query with the Quraysh in Makkah.
- Chronology: It is counted as the 22nd surah in the order of revelation, revealed after Sūrat al-Nās and before al-Najm.



Name and Virtue

- Name: This surah is famed for having over twenty names, including "Sūrat Qul Huwa Allahu Aḥad" (Say, He is Allah, [the] One) and "Sūrat al-Ṣamad" (The Eternal Refuge), based on the opening and the name in ayah 2, respectively. The most famous name is "Sūrat al-Ikhlāṣ" (Sincerity/Purity of Faith), reflecting the theme; similarly, "Sūrat al-Tawḥīd" (Monotheism) and "Sūrat al-Asās" (The Foundation).

- Virtue: It is explicitly stated by the Prophet (ﷺ) to equal one-third of the Quran in merit.

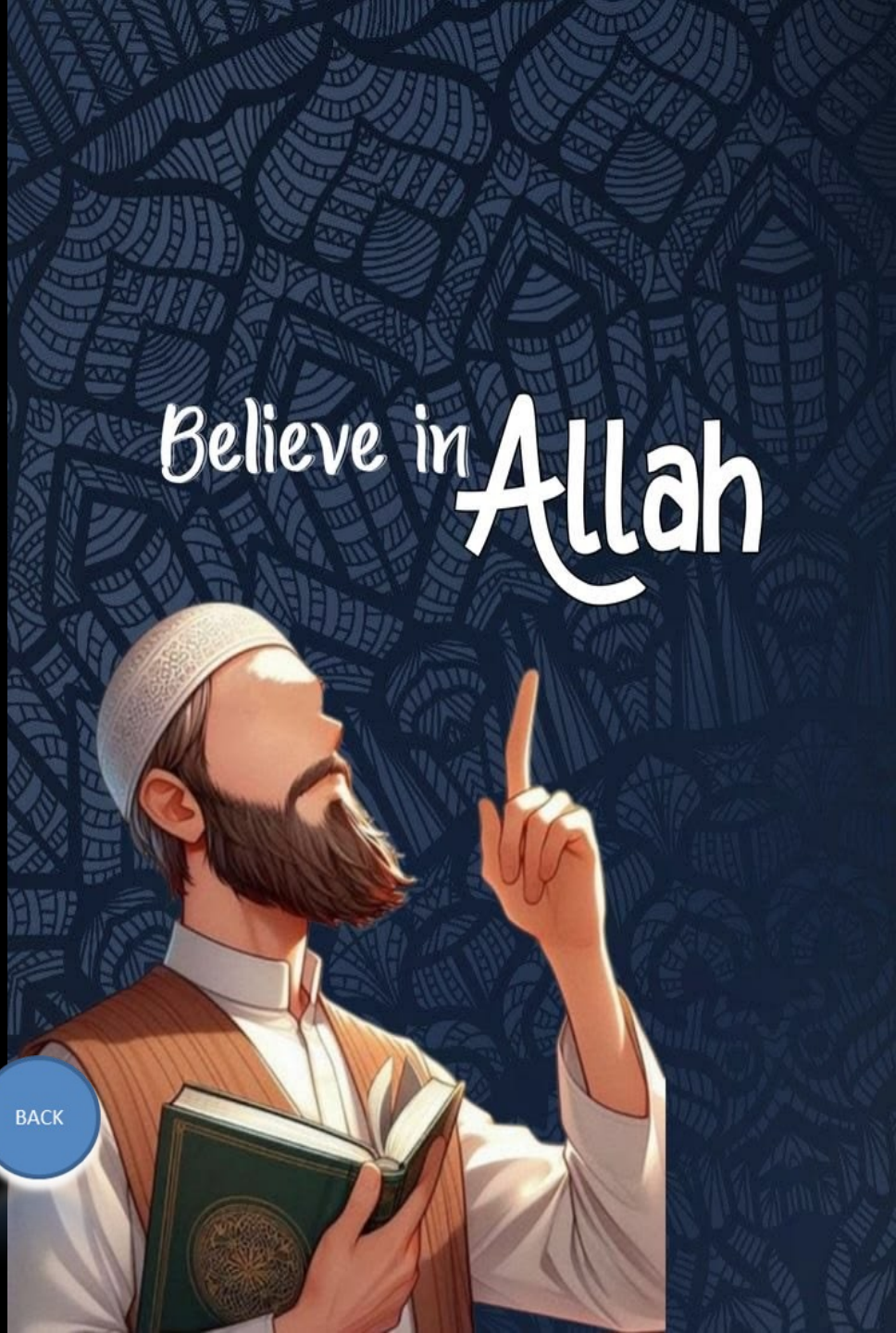
Surah Overview:

- Establishing the absolute oneness of Allah, negating all duality or partnership. [1]
- Affirming that Allah is the Eternal Refuge, the one to whom all creation turns for their needs, and who has no needs Himself. [2]
- Declaring Allah's absolute transcendence by negating both begetting and being begotten. [3]
- Negating any comparison by affirming that no one is equal or comparable to Him. [4]

THE AYAT IN DETAILS 2

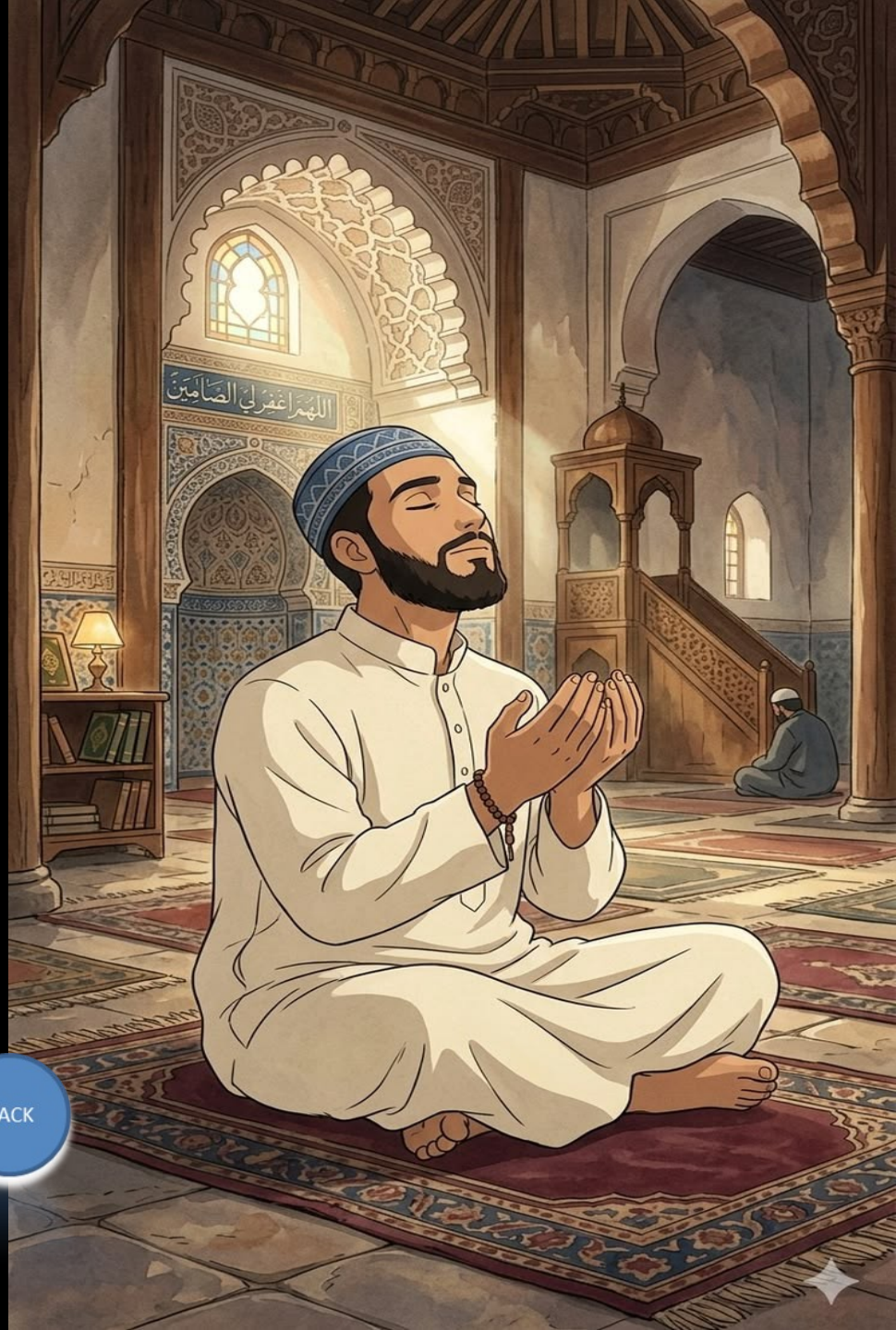
قُلْ هُوَ ٱللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ١

Say, “O Prophet,” “He is Allah—One “and Indivisible”;



ٱللَّهُ ٱلصَّمَدُ ۝٢

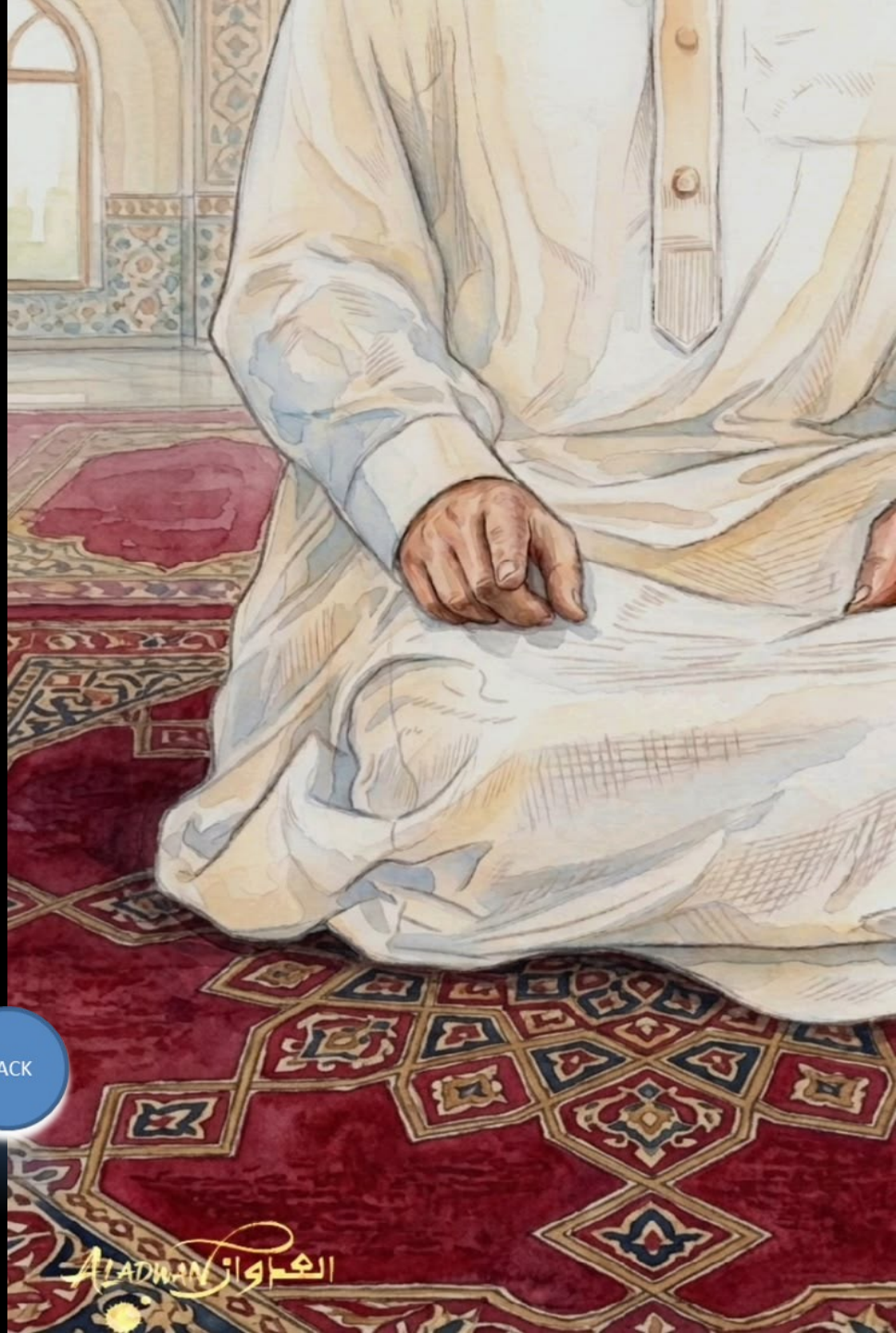
Allah—the Sustainer
needed by all.



BACK

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ﴿٣﴾

He has never had offspring, nor was He born.



BACK

وَلَمْ يَكُن لَّهُۥ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌۢ ٤

And there is none comparable to Him.”[1]

Footnote - 1

As mentioned in the Introduction, the Quran has three main themes: 1. Stories. 2. Muslim teachings. 3. And belief in the unseen. Since Sûrah 112 covers the third theme, the Prophet (ﷺ) says in a ḥadîth collected by Bukhâri and Muslim that reading this sûrah equals reading one third of the Quran.

EXCERCISES
BACK

1. Remembering (Recall)

1) How many verses are there in Surah Al-Ikhlāṣ?
2) Is Surah Al-Ikhlāṣ Makkiyyah or Madaniyyah?
3) What is the main topic of this surah?
4) According to the surah, who is Allah?
5) What does the word "Aḥad" mean?

1. Remembering (Recall)

6) What does "Aṣ-Ṣamad" mean?
7) Which verse tells us that Allah has no children?
8) Which verse tells us that no one is equal to Allah?
9) Complete the verse:"Qul huwa Allahu _____."
10) What is the reward mentioned in the hadith for reciting this surah?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1) Explain in your own words what "Allah is One" means.
2) Why is Allah called Aṣ-Ṣamad?
3) Why does the surah say that Allah neither begets nor is born?
4) What does the last verse teach us about Allah's uniqueness?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

5) How does this surah protect a Muslim from incorrect beliefs about Allah?

6) Why is this surah considered a summary of Islamic belief about Allah?

7) How are the four verses connected to each other?

8) Why is believing in Allah's oneness so important in Islam?

3. Applying

1) How can remembering that Allah is Aṣ-Ṣamad help you when you face difficulties?
2) If someone asks whom Muslims worship, how could you use this surah to answer?
3) How should believing that Allah is One affect the way we worship Him?

3. Applying

4) How can this surah strengthen your trust in Allah?
5) What daily situations remind you to depend only on Allah?
6) How can learning this surah improve your du‘ā’ (supplication)?
7) How does this surah encourage sincerity in worship?

4. Analyzing

1) Why does the surah begin by declaring Allah's oneness before mentioning His other attributes?
2) Compare the meanings of Aḥad and Aṣ-Ṣamad. How do they complement each other?
3) How does each verse refute a different false belief about Allah?

4. Analyzing

4) Explain how the order of the verses builds a complete description of Allah.

5) Why is the final verse an appropriate conclusion to the surah?

6) Analyze how this surah establishes the concept of Tawḥīd.

5. Evaluating

1) Why do you think this short surah has such great virtue?
2) Which verse do you think has the strongest impact on strengthening faith? Explain.
3) Why is worshipping Allah alone more logical than worshipping many gods?

5. Evaluating

4) Evaluate the importance of knowing Allah through His names and attributes.
5) Why should Muslims reject any belief that gives Allah human qualities or partners?
6) In your opinion, how can understanding this surah change a person's life?

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1) Write a short paragraph explaining the message of Surah Al-Ikhlāṣ to a younger child.
2) Design a mind map showing the four main teachings of the surah.
3) Create a poster illustrating the meanings of the four verses without drawing Allah.

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

4) Write three life lessons you learned from this surah.
5) Compose a short speech explaining why Surah Al-Ikhlāṣ is central to a Muslim's faith.
6) Create a table matching each verse with the belief it teaches.
7) Write a personal reflection about how this surah strengthens your relationship with Allah.

Higher-Order Discussion Questions

4) Why can true worship only be directed to a being who is One, Perfect, and without equal?

5) If Allah had an equal, how might that affect the order of the universe? Discuss.

6) Why does Islam place so much emphasis on knowing Allah correctly before discussing acts of worship?

7) How does Surah Al-Ikhlāṣ summarize the entire concept of Tawḥīd in only four verses?

8) Why do you think the Prophet ﷺ said that this surah is equivalent to one-third of the Qur'an?

و الحمد لله رب العالمين